spoken, producing among other works, a life of his famous ancestor, Marlborough, though whether his literary output was the consequence or the cause of his long deprivation of office, it is difficult to say.

Each disturbance, however remote and inaccessible its location, produced its book or books. Expiring countries left behind a trail of best-sellers, and remote places yielded unexpected royalties. When Abyssinia was invaded, the letter 'A* in the British Museum Reading Room catalogue became greatly in demand, the pages of Abyssinian references much thumbed. More adventurous spirits, not content with the quiet pursuit of second-hand information, undertook difficult journeys to the very scene of strife. Some, speculative, gave their attention to potential danger spots —in Spain even when Spain was quiet, in the expectation that trouble was brewing there, and that Spanish experts would consequently later be required.

As the pace quickened, and interest shifted from place to place with increasing rapidity, the scope was greater, but the work more urgent and the harvest of shorter duration. A week might exhaust China; Persia appear in the headlines only to vanish thence; India be forgotten, and the reward of months of patient labour bestowed upon Cyprus get compressed into a single early edition. There was always, of course, Colonel Fawcett, who, being almost certainly dead, was unlikely to be found, and Tibet, never-failing resource of travellers; trustee-stock in which they might invest their energies in the confidence that, though the dividends earned might be small,

they would always be punctually paid. Who shall say but that a non-political traveller like Mr. Peter Fleming chose wisely when he preferred Brazil to Czechoslovakia, Tartary to Jerusalem ?

To every corner of the habitable globe went investigators, economists, sociologists, anthropologists, travellers carefree or purposive. They collected data, they observed, they interviewed, got arrested, and fell into casual conversation; they endured hardships, were droll or earnest or denunciatory or appreciative according to their temper, and sometimes according to the